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PATENT Customer Number 22,852 Attorney Docket No. 7040.0023.01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#5/preB Vale 12-11-01 In re Application of: Renato CARETTA et al. Serial No.: 09/840,095 Group Art Unit: 1733 Filed: April 24, 2001 Examiner: Not yet assigned A METHOD FOR MAKING TIRES For: RECEIVED FOR VEHICLE WHEELS OCT 3 0 2001 **Assistant Commissioner for Patents** Washington, DC 20231 TC 1700 Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above-captioned application, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel, without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 2-20, and add new claims 27-55, as follows:

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--27. (new) A method of making a tire, the tire comprising a carcass structure and at least one circumferentially-inextensible annular structure, comprising the steps of:

forming at least one first carcass ply of the carcass structure;

forming the at least one circumferentially-inextensible annular structure; and

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